

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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R 160115Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1380
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
HICOM TTPI SAIPAN

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01967

DEPARTMENT PASS TO INTERIOR FOR OMSN AND OTA

HICOM PASS TO STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNTC, TQ
SUBJECT: 45TH SESSION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC):
OPENING STATEMENTS MAY 15

1. SUMMARY. AT ITS OPENING MEETING ON MAY 15, THE
TC ADOPTED ITS AGENDA, ELECTED GARRIGUE-GUYONNAUD
(FRANCE) PRESIDENT AND HARDEN (UK) VICE-PRESIDENT.
STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY US REPRESENTATIVE COOKS, TTPI
HIGH COMMISSIONER WINKEL, GOVERNOR CAMACHO OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (NMI), CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
(COM) SENATOR OLTOR, COM REPRESENTATIVE SETIK AND NMI
SENATE PRESIDENT GUERRERO. COPIES OF STATEMENTS BEING
POUCHED TO SCHIELE, IO/UNP. END SUMMARY.

2. COOKS (US) SAID PAST YEAR HAD SEEN MAJOR PROGRESS
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IN NEGOTIATIONS ON FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF
MARSHALLS AND CAROLINE ISLANDS AND IN INCREASED SELF-
GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. HE
SAID THE US WAS CONFIDENT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE
AGGREEMENT OF FREE ASSOCIATION CAN BE ACHIEVED BASED
ON THE EIGHT PRINCIPLES AGREED TO AT HILO IN APRIL; THOSE
PRINCIPLES WILL PROVIDE MICRONESIANS WITH THE MAXIMUM

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN AFFAIRS CONSISTENT WITH THE FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP, AND THE US WILL ASSUME SPECIFIC DEFENSE AND SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A FIXED TERM. HE REPORTED ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JULY 12, 1978 REFERENDUM ON THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND SAID THAT WHILE THE US BELIEVES THE MARSHALL AND CAROLINE ISLANDS WOULD BENEFIT FROM COMMON LINKS, THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL UNITY IS ONE TO BE DECIDED BY THE MICRONESIANS.

3. TTPI HICOM WINKEL ALSO NOTED RECENT BREAKTHROUGH IN THE POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS AND REPORTED ON EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE AN ORDERLY TRANSITION TO THE POST-TRUSTEESHIP PERIOD. HE GAVE DETAILED INFORMATION ON RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ADMINISTRATIVE, ECONOMIC, HEALTH, AND EDUCATION AND CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS, NOTING GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION AND REDUCTIONS AS PART OF DECENTRALIZATION, PROGRESS UNDER 5-YEAR DEVELOPMENT AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS, ENEWETAK AND BIKINI CLEAN-UP AND REHABILITATION, IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH FACILITIES AND CREATION OF COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA.

4. NMI GOVERNOR CAMACHO IN FIRST TC APPEARANCE NOTED APPROVAL OF NMI CONSTITUTION IN 1977 AND RECENT ADMINISTRATIVE SEPARATION OF NMI FROM TTPI GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THE ECONOMY OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS WAS MOVING, SAW UNCLASSIFIED

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NEED FOR CONTINUED TRAINING IN HEALTH EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND HOPED FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN SUCH AS THOSE PROVIDED UNDER WHO AUSPICES. HE DEPLORED FACT THAT TECHNICAL MATTERS AND DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE US AND JAPAN STOOD IN THE WAY OF A SOLUTION TO THE WAR CALIMS ISSUE.

5. COM SENATOR OLTER CRITICIZED US RECOGNITION OF SEPARATE NEGOTIATING ENTITIES FOR PALAU AND MARSHALLS IN THE POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH DID NOT CONFORM WITH UN POLICY REGARDING THE PRESERVATION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF A TRUST TERRITORY. OLTER REMINDED TC THAT MICRONESIANS HAD NEVER AGREED TO A FIXED TERMINATION DATE, SAID THE 5-YEAR DEV PLAN WAS BEHIND SCHEDULE AND COMMENTED ON ELECTION PROCEDURES FOLLOWING CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM. HE SAID MICRONESIANS WERE WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE CERTAIN US DEFENSE INTERESTS BUT WERE CONCERNED WITH US POSITION THAT ITS MILITARY INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES IN MICRONESIA MUST NOT BE SUBJECT TO A DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROCEDURE. HE REPORTED ON WORK OF THE MICRONESIAN TRANSITION COMMITTEE AND SAID ADMINISTRATION HAD SHOWN LITTLE INTEREST IN

IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE. OLTER ALSO SUPPORTED EXTENSION OF ALL DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED US FEDERAL PROGRAMS BUT CONSIDERED IT UNFORTUNATE THAT MICRONESIANS HAD NO EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER THE TYPE OF PROGRAM THAT REACHED THE ISLANDS.

6. IN LENGTHY STATEMENT, COM REPRESENTATIVE SETIK URGED USG ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF COM STUDY GROUP ON ISSUE OF PRIVATE LANDS HELD AND USED BY TT GOVERNMENT UNDER INDEFINITE AGREEMENTS, IN PARTICULAR THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TERMINATE THE AGREE-

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MENTS NO LATER THAN 1980. ON WAR CLAIMS, SETIK NOTED JAPANESE VIEW THAT 1969 AGREEMENT WITH US DISCHARGED JAPAN FROM ALL FURTHER CLAIMS: HE INDICATED INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING THAT GOJ WOULD CONSIDER INDIRECT CONTRIBUTION IN FORM OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE; AND HE REQUESTED THAT TC MEMBERS USE GOOD OFFICES TO CONVEY TO GOJ MICRONESIAN VIEW THAT "JAPAN HAS BOTH A MORAL AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCORD FULL RESTITUTION TO AGGRIEVED MICRONESIANS". DESCRIBING UPCOMING JULY REFERENDUM ON COM CONSTITUTION AS "A GIANT STEP FORWARD IN THE PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION",

SETIK OUTLINED ESG PROGRAM AND ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF REFERENDUM, CALLING AGAIN FOR SC PARTICIPATION AS WELL AS DIRECT OBSERVATION OF VOTING ON EBEYE. SETIK REPORTED ON COM ESTABLISHMENT OF 200-MILE FISHERY ZONE AND MICRONESIAN MARITIME AUTHORITY. HE SAID HILO
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PRINCIPLES SEEM TO HAVE LAID GROUNDWORK FOR RESOLUTION OF MARINE RESOURCES ISSUE. HE URGED DIRECT MICRONESIAN PARTICIPATION IN SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM AND SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATION. FINALLY, SETIK CALLED FOR GREATER MICRONESIAN INPUT INTO TT BUDGETARY PROCESS, DEPLORED CUTS IN OPERATIONAL FUNDING AND URGED HIGHER PRIORITY BE GIVEN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

7. GUERRERO GAVE DETAILED REPORT ON PROGRESS OF EFFORTS FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, REQUESTED THAT TERMINATION OF TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT BE BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE TT. HE ALSO SPOKE ON WAR CLAIMS ISSUE AND STATED THAT THE MAIN OBSTACLE TOWARD OPENING OF FUTURE ENGOTIATION FOR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT IS THE RELUCTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO RECOGNIZE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS. HE REQUESTED THE TC TO EXTEND TO THE NORTHERN MARIANAS CERTAIN UN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS UN PROGRAMS. MCHENRY

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